

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a tubular, resilient body, the method comprising the steps of: providing slits in a foam layer; cutting a strip out of the slitted foam layer; bending two opposite ends of the strip towards each other; and fixing both opposite ends in order to form a tubular, resilient body; wherein the foam layer is made of a viscoelastic foam, and wherein at least a part of the cells present in the foam are broken open by compressing the foam such that a gas pressure within the cells rises to burst the cells.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the slits are provided in the axial direction of the tubular, resilient body.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the opposite ends of the strip are bent such that the tubular body is formed with a biconical or almost biconical shape on the outside.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the strip is stretched at least in its longitudinal direction when being bent, whereby the slits are drawn open in order to form cavities.